

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSM-03 IO-13 EUR-12 ACDA-07 TRSE-00
AID-05 OMB-01 EB-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 /104 W
-----151937Z 078741 /46

R 151452Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6717

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 4332

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: IS, LY, PORG
SUBJECT: MFA OFFICIALS COMMENTS RE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

1. IN COMPARING NOTES WITH EMBOFF ON THIS YEAR'S ISLAMIC CONFERENCE AT TRIPOLI, THE DIRECTOR OF THE MFA'S MIDDLE EAST AND EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN DIVISION (VERED) MADE THE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS.

2. ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION. THE ISLAMIC STATES HAD NOT BEEN MUCH MORE EXTREME VIS-A-VIS ISRAEL THAN IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR BECAUSE "THERE WAS LITTLE THAT THE COULD ADD."

3. TURKEY AND CYPRUS. FOLLOWING A PRACTICE THEY HAD ADOPTED AFTER THE CYPRUS INVASION, THE TURKS HAD SUBMITTED "SECRET" WRITTEN RESERVATIONS TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE REGARDING THEIR FOREIGN POLICY POSITIONS RE ISRAEL AND CYPRUS. (GABON WAS ALSO SAID TO HAVE HAD SOME RESERVATIONS RE ISRAEL.) IN ADDITION TO THE CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECT OF ERITREA, THERE HAD BEEN LOW-KEY DIFFERENCES AMONG THE VARIOUS ISLAMIC STATES OVER CYPRUS, WITH SYRIA AND LEBANON IN PARTICULAR RESERVING THEIR POSITIONS. AND ALTHOUGH QADDHAFI IN HIS OPENING STATEMENT HAD JUSTIFIED THE TURKISH ACTION IN CYPRUS,
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THE LIBYAN EMBASSY THERE HAD SUBSEQUENTLY GIVEN THE GREEK PRO-GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPERS AN "IMPROVED" (I.E., CLEANED UP) VERSION OF QADDHAFI'S SPEECH, DELETING ITS MORE OFFENSIVE REFERENCES. TURKEY HAD BEEN QUITE ACTIVE AT THE CONFERENCE IN LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR OBTAINING A MORE FAVORABLE UNGA RESOLUTION ON CYPRUS LATER THIS YEAR.

4. SAUDI AID. AS THEY DID LAST YEAR, THE SAUDIS MADE A GENEROUS AID PLEDGE; LAST YEAR THERE WAS A GAP BETWEEN THE SAUDI PLEDGE AND THEIR ACTUAL CONTRIBUTION.

5. THE CONFERENCE ALSO REPEATED LAST YEAR'S RESOLUTION TO EXTEND SPECIAL HELP TO THOSE ISLAMIC STATES WITHOUT ACCESS TO THE SEA (E.G., AFGHANISTAN), AND PLEDGED TO ESTABLISH TWO NEW ISLAMIC UNIVERSITIES, ONE OF THEM IN UGANDA.

6. DEPARTMENT REPEAT TO INFO ADDRESSES AS APPROPRIATE.
LEWIS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MOSLEMS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TELAV04332
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770214-0127
Format: TEL
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770652/aaaabuaz.tel
Line Count: 75
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b818077c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2136846
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MFA OFFICIALS COMMENTS RE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE
TAGS: PORG, IS, LY
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b818077c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009